THE ETERNALS

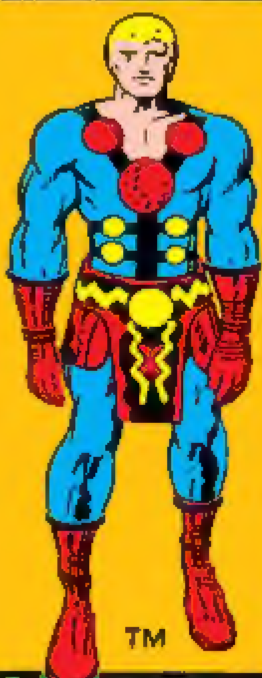
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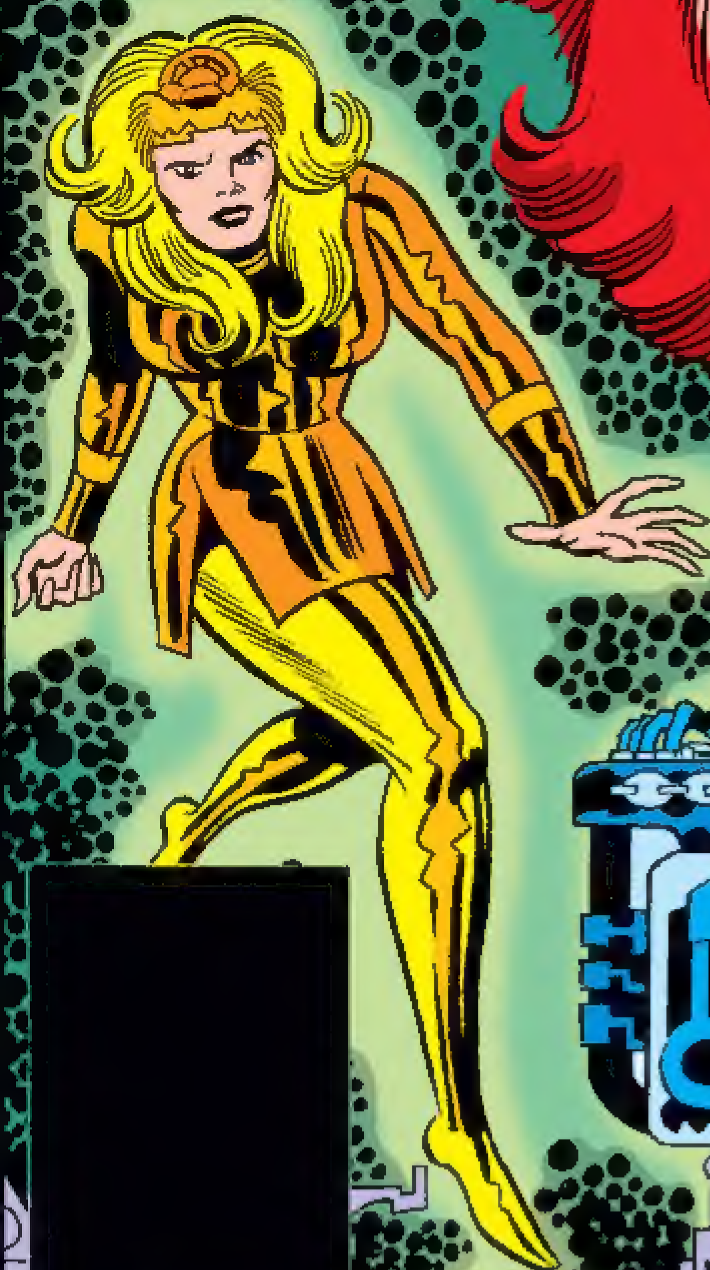
WHEN GODS WALK THE EARTH!

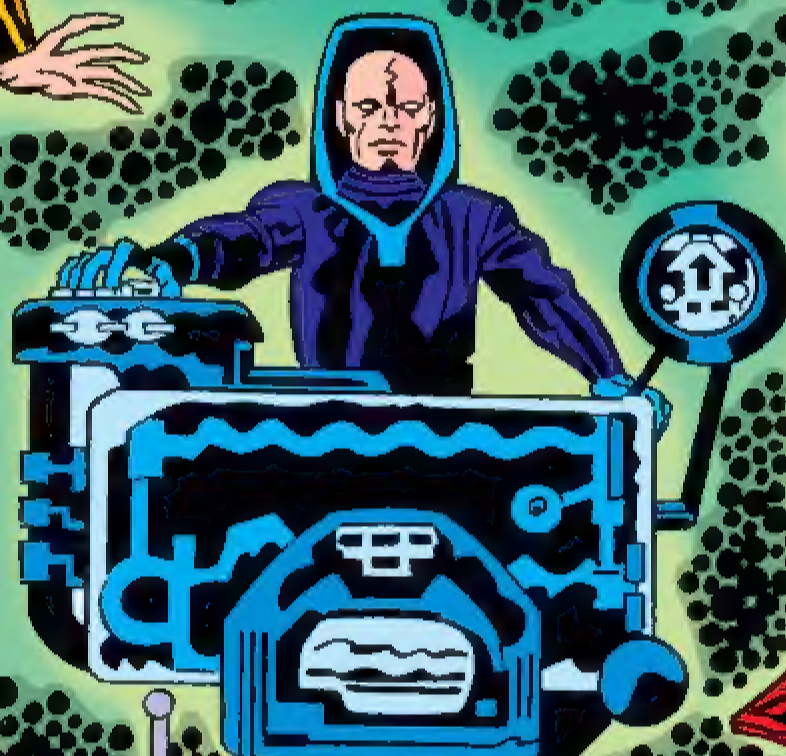
THE ETERNALS™

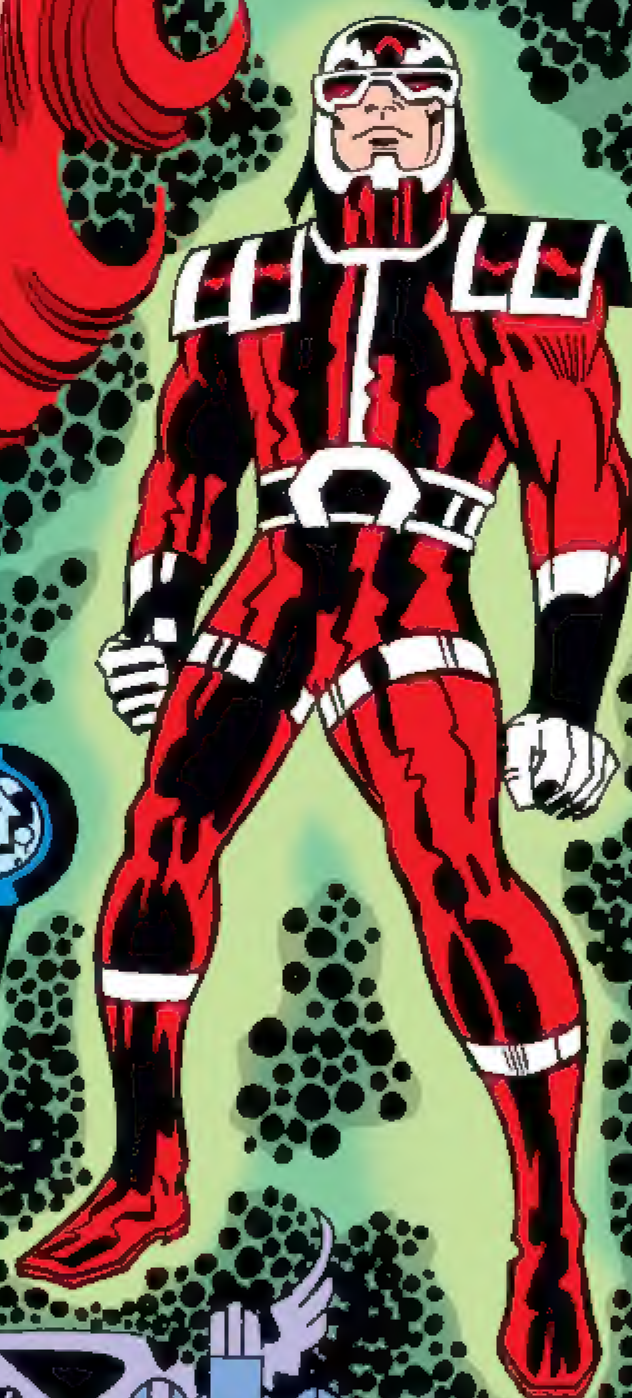


REVEALED THIS ISSUE! THE POWER OF OLYMPIA!

THE FATE OF THE WORLD RESTS WITH THESE FOUR! WHO ARE THEY? WHAT ARE THEY?!



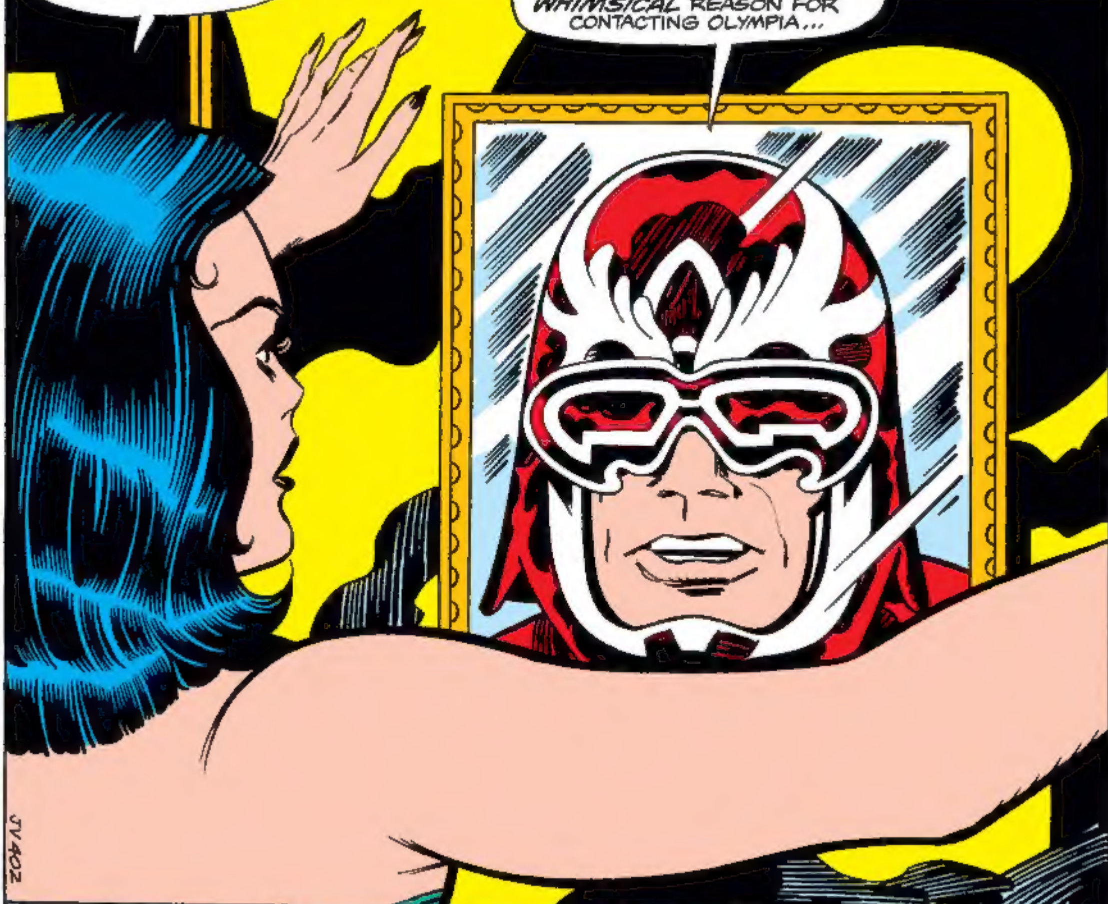




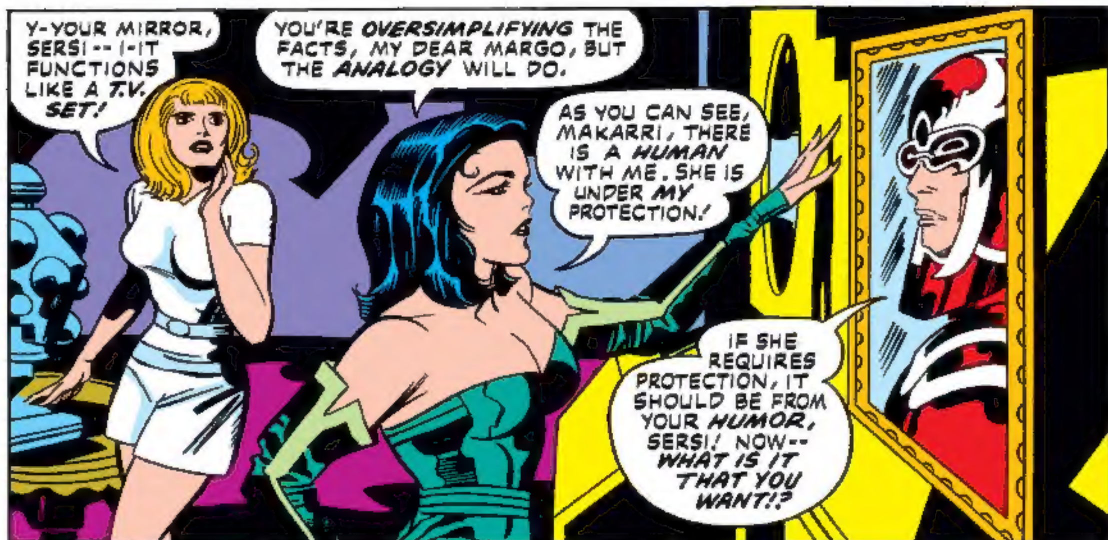
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE ETERNALS!™

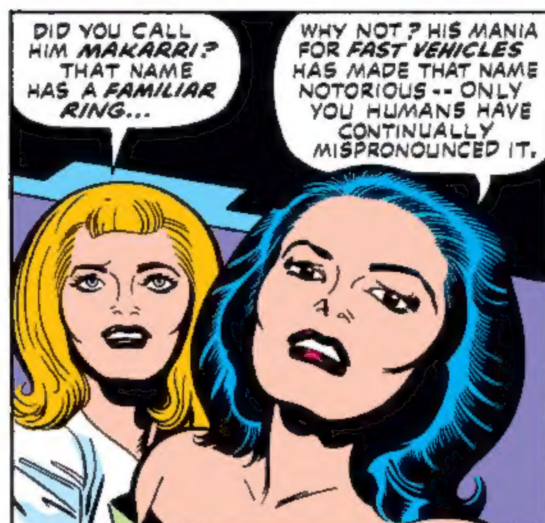
THE MIND-BLOWING SECRET IS OUT!! AN EXTRA-ORDINARY DISCOVERY HAS REVEALED WHAT HAS PUZZLED HUMANS THROUGHOUT THE AGES -- THAT THERE IS AN ASTOUNDING TRUTH BEHIND ALL OF MYTHOLOGY!! BUT THIS HASN'T HAPPENED IN SLOW AND EASY STAGES! IF YOU THINK FUTURE SHOCK IS A PROBLEM, TRY THIS STRANGE EXPERIENCE OF "PAST SHOCK!" FOLLOW THE ETERNALS INTO--

OLYMPIA!



CONCEIVED, WRITTEN and ILLUSTRATED BY JACK KIRBY | INKS AND LETTERING BY MIKE ROYER | COLORING BY GLYNIS WEIN | CONSULTING EDITOR ARCHIE GOODWIN


Y-YOUR MIRROR, SERSI -- I-IT FUNCTIONS LIKE A T.V. SET!
YOU'RE OVERSIMPLIFYING THE FACTS, MY DEAR MARGO, BUT THE ANALOGY WILL DO.
AS YOU CAN SEE, MAKARRI, THERE IS A HUMAN WITH ME. SHE IS UNDER MY PROTECTION!
IF SHE REQUIRES PROTECTION, IT SHOULD BE FROM YOUR HUMOR, SERSI! NOW-- WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT!?


DID YOU CALL HIM MAKARRI? THAT NAME HAS A FAMILIAR RING...
WHY NOT? HIS MANIA FOR FAST VEHICLES HAS MADE THAT NAME NOTORIOUS -- ONLY YOU HUMANS HAVE CONTINUALLY MISPRONOUNCED IT.

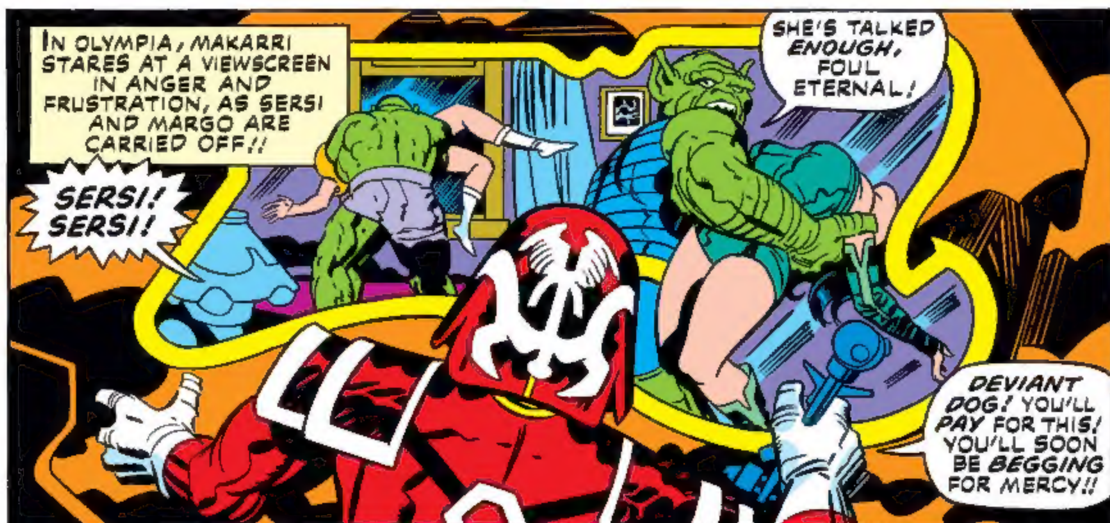

OH, SHE CAN CALL ME MERCURY. WE ETERNALS HAVE LEARNED TO LIVE WITH THE SPEECH IMPEDIMENTS OF HUMANS...
HAVE WE ALSO COME TO IGNORE THE SAVAGERY OF THE DEVIANTS?
THEY'RE BACK, MAKARRI!! THEY'VE COME OUT OF HIDING!

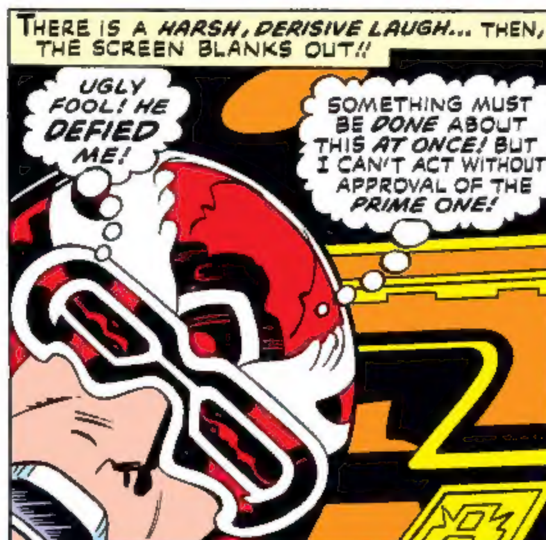

LOOK OUTSIDE THIS WINDOW! NEW YORK CITY IS AFLAME!! IT'S BEEN SUBJECTED TO A SURPRISE ATTACK! THE DEVIANTS ARE SWARMING EVERYWHERE!
I KNOW YOU WELL, SERSI. MY GUESS IS THAT YOU'VE BEATEN OFF A FEW ALREADY!

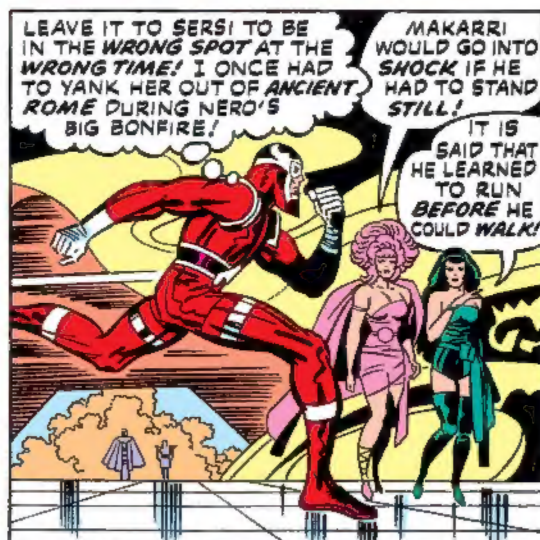

T-THEY LOOK L-LIKE D-DEVILS AND SCALY DEMONS!! UGH!!
YOU KNOW HOW THAT RAT-PACK OPERATES, MAKARRI... THEY'RE USING MUTATES TO PANIC THE HUMANS!

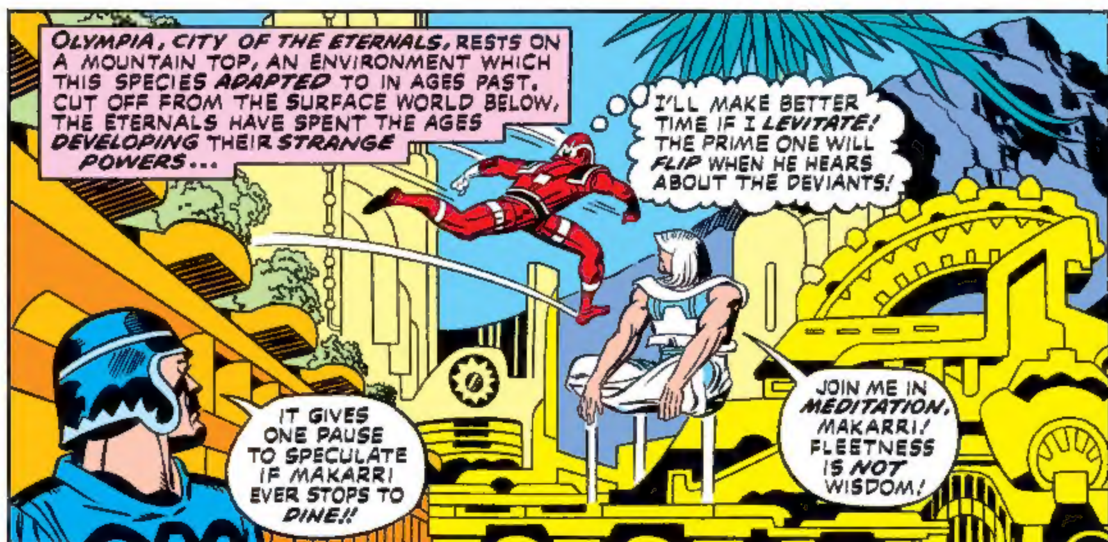

NOW THAT THEY'VE DISCOVERED AN ETERNAL IN THIS TOWN, THEY'LL BE BACK HERE FOR ANOTHER TRY!
THAT'S WHY I'VE CON-TACTED OLYMPIA!
SERSI! LOOK OUT!! BEHIND YOU--!!


THE WARNING COMES TOO LATE! SERSI AND MARGO ARE ROUGHLY SEIZED BY THE INVADING MUTATES!
REMEMBER THE ETERNAL'S EYES! THEY CAN DESTROY!
POW!
SHE CAN'T USE HER POWERS WHILE SHE'S SLEEPING!


IN OLYMPIA, MAKARRI STARES AT A VIEWSCREEN IN ANGER AND FRUSTRATION, AS SERSI AND MARGO ARE CARRIED OFF!!
SERSI! SERSI!
SHE'S TALKED ENOUGH, FOUL ETERNAL!
DEVIANT DOG! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS! YOU'LL SOON BE BEGGING FOR MERCY!!


THERE IS A HARSH, DERISIVE LAUGH... THEN, THE SCREEN BLANKS OUT!!
UGLY FOOL! HE DEFIED ME!
SOMETHING MUST BE DONE ABOUT THIS AT ONCE! BUT I CAN'T ACT WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE PRIME ONE!


LEAVE IT TO SERSI TO BE IN THE WRONG SPOT AT THE WRONG TIME! I ONCE HAD TO YANK HER OUT OF ANCIENT ROME DURING NERO'S BIG BONFIRE!
MAKARRI WOULD GO INTO SHOCK IF HE HAD TO STAND STILL!
IT IS SAID THAT HE LEARNED TO RUN BEFORE HE COULD WALK!

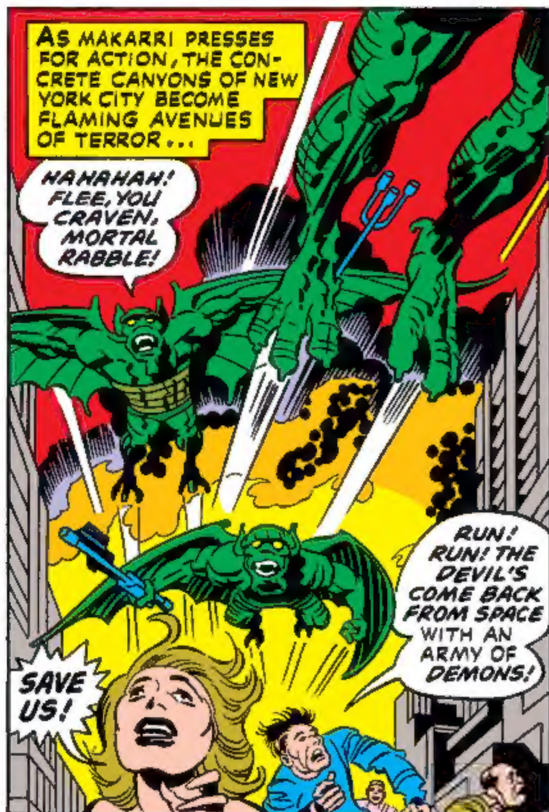

OLYMPIA, CITY OF THE ETERNALS, RESTS ON A MOUNTAIN TOP, AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH THIS SPECIES ADAPTED TO IN AGES PAST. CUT OFF FROM THE SURFACE WORLD BELOW, THE ETERNALS HAVE SPENT THE AGES DEVELOPING THEIR STRANGE POWERS...
I'LL MAKE BETTER TIME IF I LEVITATE! THE PRIME ONE WILL FLIP WHEN HE HEARS ABOUT THE DEVIANTS!
IT GIVES ONE PAUSE TO SPECULATE IF MAKARRI EVER STOPS TO DINE!!
JOIN ME IN MEDITATION, MAKARRI! FLEETNESS IS NOT WISDOM!


IN THE TEMPLE OF COMMAND, MAKARRI APPROACHES THE DIGNIFIED AND EFFICIENT DISPENSER OF OLYMPIA'S GENERAL AFFAIRS...
HO! DOMO!
DON'T SHOUT, MAKARRI! YOU KNOW HOW DISTURBING THAT CAN BE!


WOULDN'T YOU SHOUT IF YOU'D JUST BEEN WITNESS TO THE ABDUCTION OF AN ETERNAL BY-- GET THIS --MUTATES!?!
MUTATES? MUTATES? BUT THEIR KIND HASN'T BEEN ACTIVE FOR AGES!


WELL, THEY'RE ACTIVE NOW! BECAUSE THEIR MASTERS, THE DEVIANTS, ARE ACTIVE!!
THE DEVIANTS HAVE COME OUT OF THEIR HOLE--TO FIGHT!
NONSENSE! IT ISN'T POSSIBLE-- NOT AFTER ALL THESE MILLENIA!


I DEMAND TO SEE THE GREAT ONE! HE WON'T TREAT THIS SO LIGHTLY!
IF I WERE YOU, I'D RETIRE SOMEWHERE AND DREAM UP A MORE REALISTIC REASON FOR RISKING THE GREAT ONE'S WRATH!

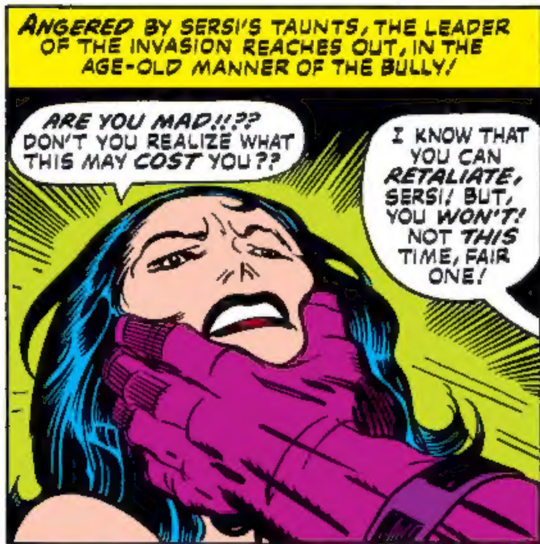

AS MAKARRI PRESSES FOR ACTION, THE CONCRETE CANYONS OF NEW YORK CITY BECOME FLAMING AVENUES OF TERROR...
HAHAHAH! FLEE, YOU CRAVEN, MORTAL RABBLE!
RUN! RUN! THE DEVIL'S COME BACK FROM SPACE WITH AN ARMY OF DEMONS!
SAVE US!


THE CRY OF "DEVILS FROM SPACE" RISES THROUGHOUT THE STRICKEN CITY! IN THIS FEARFUL MOMENT, HUMANS SEIZE QUICKLY UPON ANCIENT SUPERSTITIONS!!
RUN! HAHAHAH!


BUT, DESPITE THE CHAOS IN THE WAKE OF A SURPRISE INVASION, THE FORCES OF THE LAW HOLD THEIR GROUND AND FIGHT BACK WITH GRIM DETERMINATION...
POW! POW
KEEP FIRING! THOSE MONSTERS DON'T LIKE THE TASTE OF RESISTANCE!
THERE'S ANOTHER PACK! BLOW 'EM AWAY!!


THE TRUTH IS ALMOST AS FANTASTIC AS THE MYTH. SERSI AND MARGO DAMIAN ARE, AT THIS MOMENT, BROUGHT BEFORE THE ONE HUMANS HAVE IDENTIFIED AS SATAN HIMSELF!
WELCOME TO THE PARTY, FAIR ETERNAL.
Y-YOU SWINE!
W-WHO IS HE, SERSI? I-IS THIS REALLY SATAN?

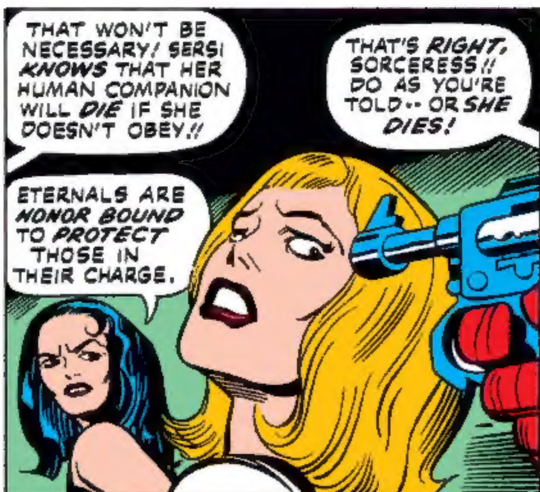

CAREFUL, SERSI! ETERNALS MAY BE POWERFUL, AS WELL AS IMMORTAL, BUT I'VE HUMBLED THEM BEFORE!!
TURN ME LOOSE AND I'LL TELL THE HUMANS WHO YOU ARE! KRO, THE DEVIANT! KRO, THE FAKE!
SILENCE HER, GREAT KRO!


ANGERED BY SERSI'S TAUNTS, THE LEADER OF THE INVASION REACHES OUT, IN THE AGE-OLD MANNER OF THE BULLY!
ARE YOU MAD!!?? DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS MAY COST YOU??
I KNOW THAT YOU CAN RETALIATE, SERSI! BUT, YOU WON'T! NOT THIS TIME, FAIR ONE!


SUDDENLY, KRO'S EYES WIDEN IN ASTONISHMENT AND FEAR! HIS GAZE IS FIXED ON THE HAND WHICH CLASPS SERSI!
NO! NO! YOU FEMALE FIEND!! W-WHAT HAVE YOU DONE!?


MY HAND! YOU'VE CHANGED IT INTO A GNARLED AND TWISTED STUMP OF WOOD!


UNDO THIS BRAZEN DEED, YOU DEFIANT WENCH!! UNDO THIS ABOMINATION, I SAY!
IT LOOKS NO WORSE THAN YOUR FACE, KRO!
GIVE US THE COMMAND, KRO! WE'LL MAKE HER OBEY!!
YES! YES! GIVE US THE ORDER!


THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY! SERSI KNOWS THAT HER HUMAN COMPANION WILL DIE IF SHE DOESN'T OBEY!!
THAT'S RIGHT, SORCERESS!! DO AS YOU'RE TOLD-- OR SHE DIES!
ETERNALS ARE HONOR BOUND TO PROTECT THOSE IN THEIR CHARGE.

SERSI'S EYES BLAZE BRIGHTLY, EMITTING RAYS THAT FORCE A MOLECULAR CHANGE...

SHE'S *DONE* IT! *MY HAND REGAINS ITS FORMER SHAPE!*

I RECANT WITH *GREAT RELUCTANCE,* KRO! MISTREAT ME AGAIN AND I'LL FIX YOU FOR *GOOD,* ON MY *NEXT* TRY!

THERE *WON'T BE* A NEXT TIME, ETERNAL!

WE'LL MAKE *CERTAIN* OF THAT!

AND SO WE *SHALL!* SUMMON AN AIR SHUTTLE! HAVE *BOTH* FEMALES TAKEN TO OUR RAIDING VESSEL!

WE HAVE THE *MEANS* ABOARD TO KEEP THESE TWO IN A *DOCILE STATE!*

MOMENTS LATER, A SMALL AIRCRAFT LEAVES THE BELEAGUERED CITY WITH THE CAPTIVES...

GUARDS! KEEP YOUR GUNS ON THE PRISONERS!

THE AIR SHUTTLE GLIDES *SILENTLY* ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY. IT TAKES JUST MINUTES TO REACH THE WATERFRONT AREA AND CONTINUE TOWARD THE RIVER.

HAHAHAHAH! GREAT KRO HAS THOROUGHLY *DECEIVED* THOSE SHEEP-LIKE HUMANS INTO THINKING THAT OUR FORCES HAVE ATTACKED FROM *SPACE!*

THEY HAVE *NO INKLING* THAT, LIKE THE ETERNALS, WE DEVIANTS ARE ALSO *NATIVE* TO THIS WORLD!

DESCENT IS SUDDEN AND SWIFT! A STEEP DIVE SENDS THE CRAFT INTO CONTACT WITH THE COLD, DARK WATERS. IT SUBMERGES AND *VANISHES* FROM SIGHT!!

WE LIVE IN THE SEA, BELOW!! HAHAHAH!

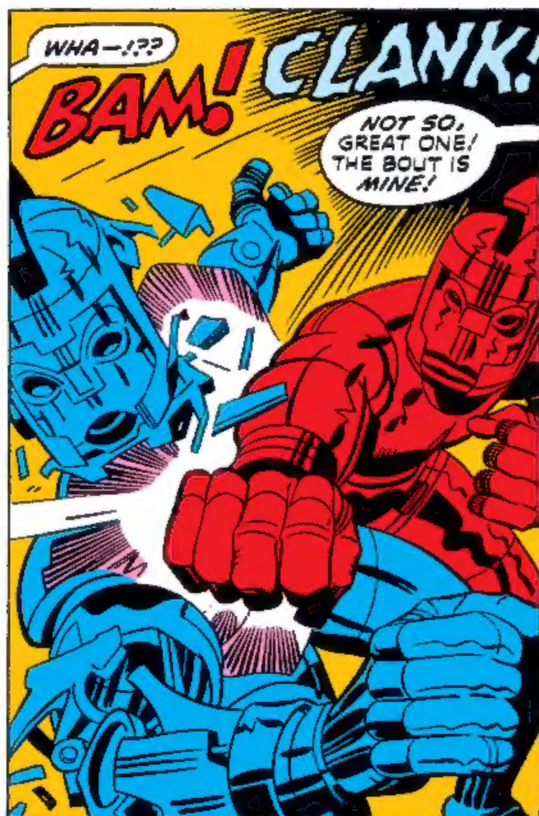
SPLOSH

ONCE BENEATH THE WATER'S SURFACE, THE CRAFT CONVERTS TO SUBMARINE CAPABILITY, AND MAKES FOR THE *MOTHER* SHIP...

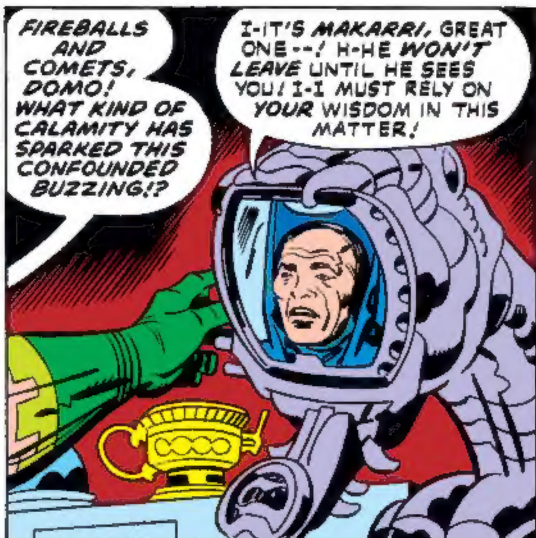
SHUTTLE TO RAIDER. OPEN YOUR *MAIN HATCH!* WE'RE BRINGING *GUESTS!*

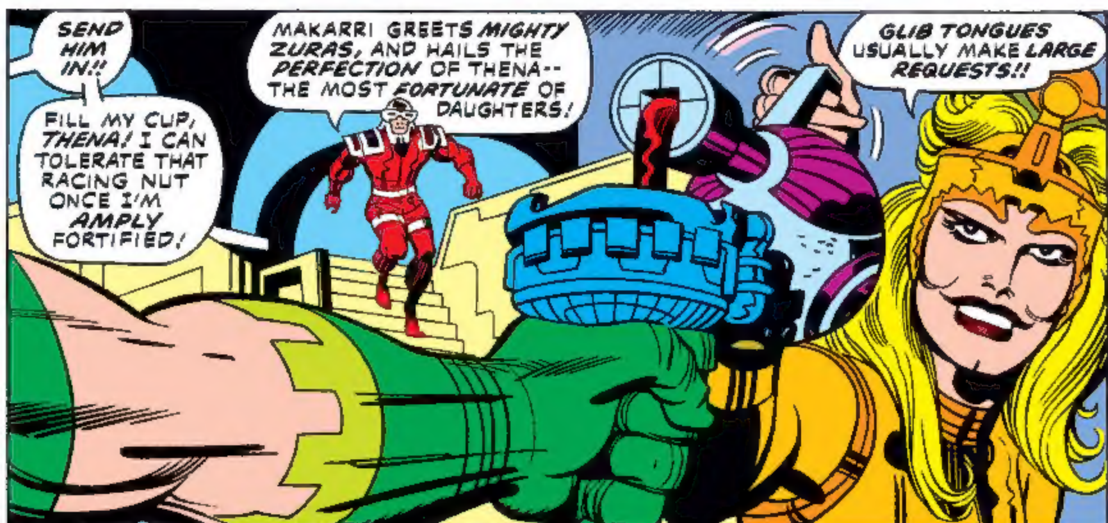
BRING THEM IN! WE KNOW HOW TO *TAKE CARE* OF THEM!!



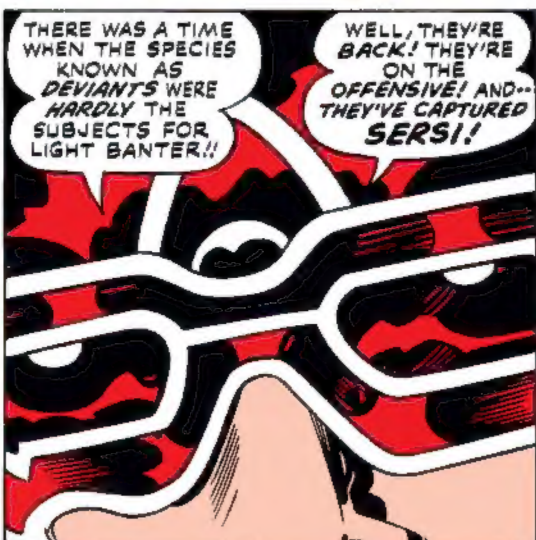



MY AUTO-BOXER STANDS VICTORIOUS, FATHER! ADMIT THAT MY SKILL AT THIS GAME OUTSTRIPS YOUR OWN!
I'D HAVE WON, IF THIS BUZZER HADN'T BEEN DRIVING ME OUT OF MY WITS!!
BZZZZT! BZZZT!


FIREBALLS AND COMETS, DOMO! WHAT KIND OF CALAMITY HAS SPARKED THIS CONFOUNDED BUZZING!?
I-IT'S MAKARRI, GREAT ONE--! H-HE WON'T LEAVE UNTIL HE SEES YOU! I-I MUST RELY ON YOUR WISDOM IN THIS MATTER!


SEND HIM IN!!
FILL MY CUP, THENA! I CAN TOLERATE THAT RACING NUT ONCE I'M AMPLY FORTIFIED!
MAKARRI GREETS MIGHTY ZURAS, AND HAILS THE PERFECTION OF THENA-- THE MOST FORTUNATE OF DAUGHTERS!
GLIB TONGUES USUALLY MAKE LARGE REQUESTS!!


DON'T SPARE ME, MAKARRI! HAS THE MOON FALLEN INTO THE SUN? IS OLYMPIA TOPPLING FROM ITS MOUNTAIN CREST?
YOU STRIKE CLOSE, PRIME ETERNAL!! AN ANCIENT PLAGUE HAS REAPPEARED, TO SOW HAVOC IN THIS CENTURY!!
DON'T KEEP US GUESSING! IS IT ANIMAL, MINERAL, OR VEGETABLE?

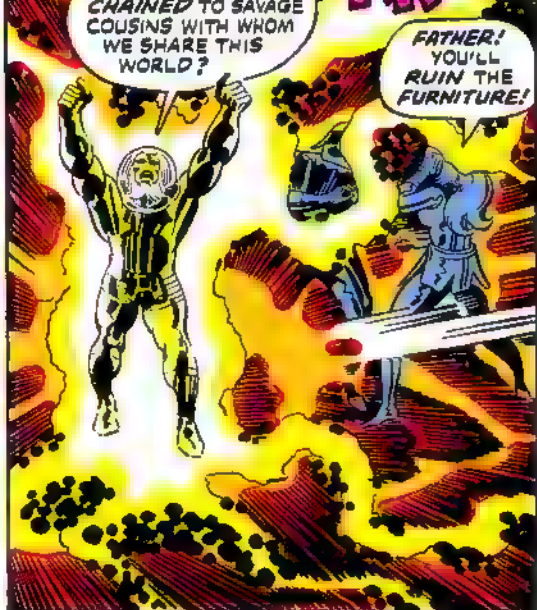
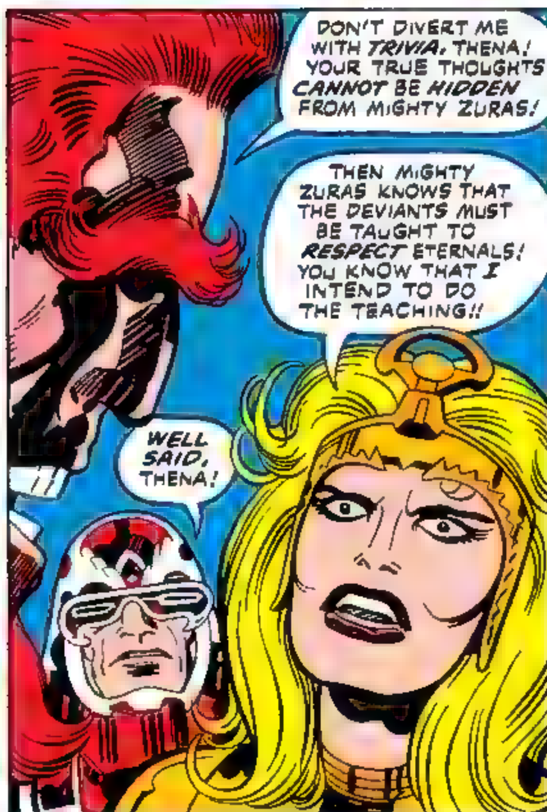
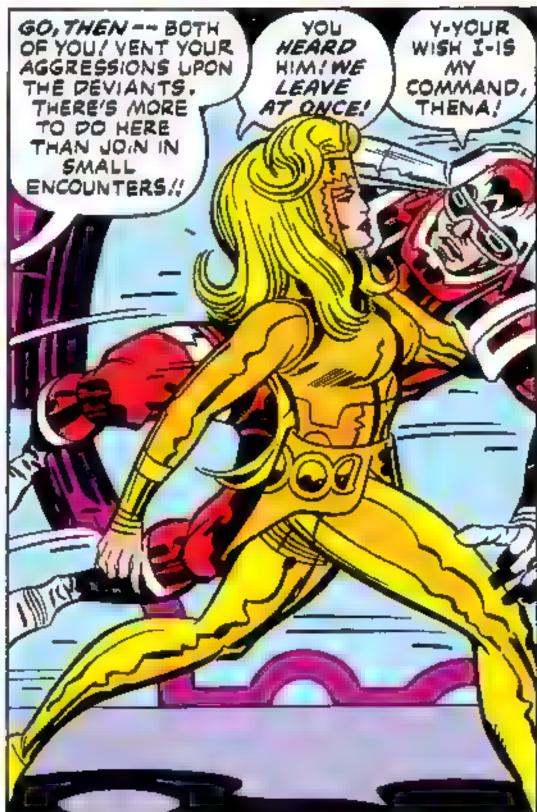

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THE SPECIES KNOWN AS DEVIANTS WERE HARDLY THE SUBJECTS FOR LIGHT BANTER!!
WELL, THEY'RE BACK! THEY'RE ON THE OFFENSIVE! AND-- THEY'VE CAPTURED SERSI!

A MASSIVE SHADOW STIRS UPON THE FAR WALL. IT FOLLOWS THE MOVEMENT OF A MOST MAJESTIC FORM--ZURAS, THE ELDEST OF ETERNALS, AND WIELDER OF A HUNDRED POTENT POWERS, RISES IN ANGER!!

BLAST THIS CENTURY OF WORLD WARS, MINI-WARS, AND GUERRILLA WARS! ARE WE NOW TO REVIVE A COSMIC WAR!!??

GIVE ME THE DETAILS OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, MAKARRI --AND HEED! BE FORTHRIGHT AND ACCURATE IN YOUR DESCRIPTION OF WHAT YOU'VE SEEN!

AND ABOVE ALL, DON'T ALLOW YOUR YOUTHFUL ENERGIES TO MOVE YOU TO OFFER RASH PROPOSALS!!


MAKARRI OBEDIENTLY AND CAREFULLY DESCRIBES THE INCIDENT AT THE VIEWSCREEN.
THE PICTURE IS CLEAR ENOUGH, MAKARRI! BUT WHAT HAS DRIVEN THE DEVIANTS TO TERRORIZE THE HUMANS?
THAT SHALL BE KNOWN TO US SOON, GREAT ONE. WE MUST FIRST CONSIDER SERSI'S FATE!
NEVER FEAR FOR THAT BUNDLE OF TROUBLE! PITY THE DEVIANTS WHO TOOK HER CAPTIVE!

ZURAS SUDDENLY EXPLODES WITH RAGE! HUGE BOLTS OF RAW ENERGY LEAP FROM HIS BODY!
KRAK!
ARE WE NEVER TO SPEND OUR DAYS IN PEACEFUL PURSUITS!? MUST WE REMAIN FOREVER CHAINED TO SAVAGE COUSINS WITH WHOM WE SHARE THIS WORLD?
FATHER! YOU'LL RUIN THE FURNITURE!

DON'T DIVERT ME WITH TRIVIA, THENA! YOUR TRUE THOUGHTS CANNOT BE HIDDEN FROM MIGHTY ZURAS!
THEN MIGHTY ZURAS KNOWS THAT THE DEVIANTS MUST BE TAUGHT TO RESPECT ETERNALS! YOU KNOW THAT I INTEND TO DO THE TEACHING!!
WELL SAID, THENA!

GO, THEN -- BOTH OF YOU! VENT YOUR AGGRESSIONS UPON THE DEVIANTS. THERE'S MORE TO DO HERE THAN JOIN IN SMALL ENCOUNTERS!!
YOU HEARD HIM! WE LEAVE AT ONCE!
Y-YOUR WISH I-IS MY COMMAND, THENA!


SOON AFTER...
IF YOU HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT TRAVELLING AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT, THENA, THEN THIS CRAFT SHOULD PLEASE YOU!!
I HOPE THAT THIS IS ONE OF YOUR FASTER VEHICLES, MAKARRI! I DON'T LIKE TO WASTE TIME WHEN THERE'S ACTION INVOLVED!

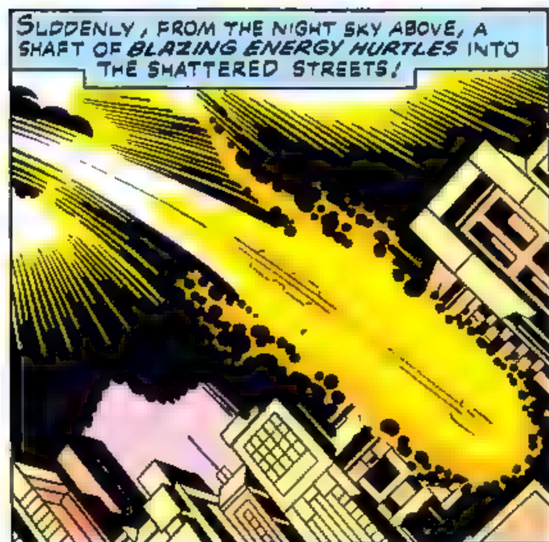

THE DEVIANTS, AT THIS MOMENT, STILL ADVANCE IN FEARSOME RANKS! THEIR PATH IS STREWN WITH FLAMING DEBRIS, AND THE CRIES OF TERRIFIED HUMANS ECHO FROM EVERY DIRECTION!!
DON'T STOP, DEVIANTS! PRESS ON! WE MUST BURN THIS NIGHT INTO THE MEMORIES OF THE INHABITANTS!!
HAHAHAHAH! THEY WON'T FORGET THIS!

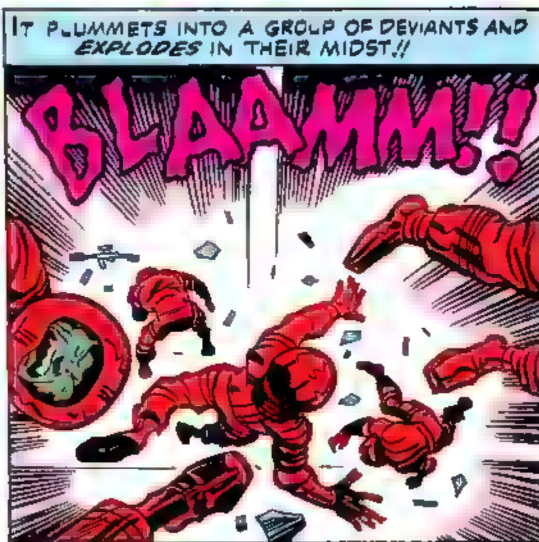

KRO IS WELL AWARE THAT AT SOME POINT THE HUMANS WILL OVERCOME THEIR FEAR AND WILL STRIKE BACK IN VENGEANCE!! THEY WILL SEEK AND FIND THE ENEMY HE IS PLANTING IN THEIR MINDS!!
COWER AND CRINGE AND CRAWL INTO YOUR HOLES, WORTHLESS HUMANS! WE'VE COME BACK FROM SPACE TO RECLAIM THE EARTH!
WE RULED HERE IN CENTURIES PAST! AND WHEN WE'RE THROUGH HERE, WE SHALL BE THE MASTERS ONCE MORE!

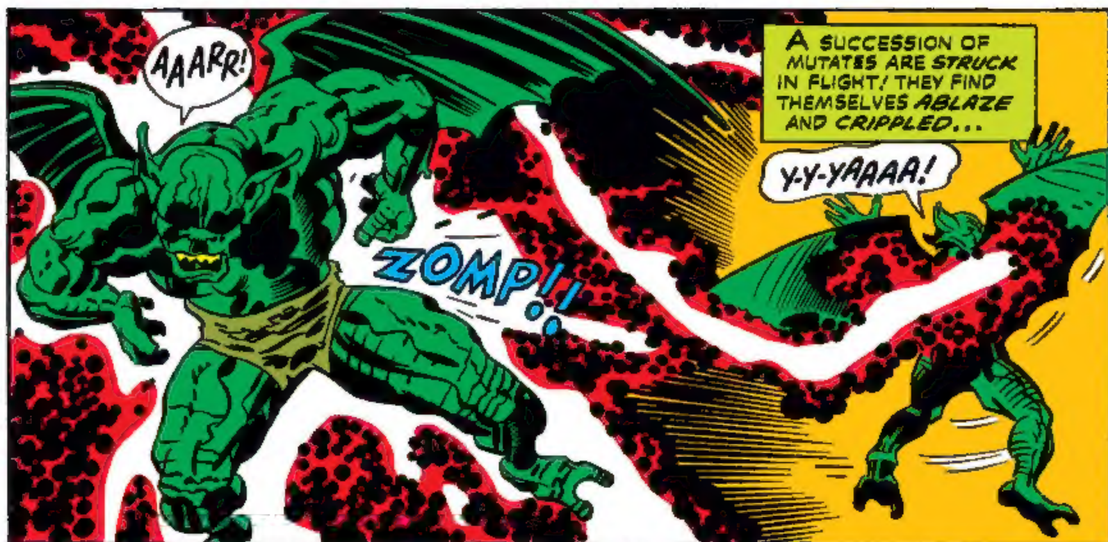

BUT, RESISTANCE AMONG THE HUMANS HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO TAKE HOLD...
WHO ARE YOU!?? DISPERSE YOUR MEN, YOU FOOL!
I'M POLICE INSPECTOR JAMES FISHER! PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPONS!

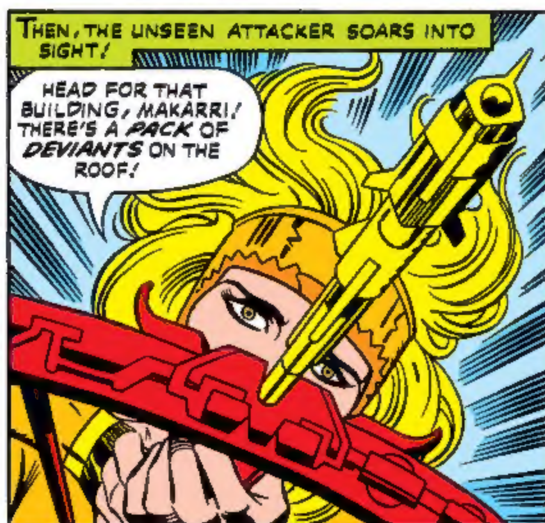

HOT BURSTS OF FLAME HISS BY FISHER, AS A WARNING TO STEP ASIDE!
YOU'RE BRAVE, HUMAN! BUT THE NEXT VOLLEY WILL FINISH YOU!
KILLING ME WILL GAIN YOU NOTHING!! YOUR BATTLE IS LOST!!


HAHAHAH! DO YOU THINK TO DECEIVE ME WITH EMPTY THREATS!?
WE'LL CONTAIN YOU AS LONG AS WE CAN! BUT THERE ARE TROOPS ON THEIR WAY THIS MOMENT WHO WILL DO A REAL JOB ON YOU!
YOU CAN'T REASON WITH SPACE DEVILS, INSPECTOR! JUST BACK OFF SO WE CAN BLAST 'EM!
WE'LL GIVE 'EM THE FIGHT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR!!


SUDDENLY, FROM THE NIGHT SKY ABOVE, A SHAFT OF BLAZING ENERGY HURTLES INTO THE SHATTERED STREETS!


IT PLUMMETS INTO A GROUP OF DEVIANTS AND EXPLODES IN THEIR MIDST!!
BLAAMM!!


AAARR!
A SUCCESSION OF MUTATES ARE STRUCK IN FLIGHT! THEY FIND THEMSELVES ABLAZE AND CRIPPLED...
Y-Y-YAAAA!
ZOMP!!


THEN, THE UNSEEN ATTACKER SOARS INTO SIGHT!
HEAD FOR THAT BUILDING, MAKARRI! THERE'S A PACK OF DEVIANTS ON THE ROOF!


GOOD FLYING! I WAS ABLE TO GET A FINE SHOT AT THEM! THE DOGS CAN'T HANDLE COLD ENERGY!
WAM!


THIS TOWN IS A FLAMING MESS!! FINDING SERSI WON'T BE AN EASY TASK!!
WHEN WE FIND KRO, THE DEVIANT LEADER, WE'LL FIND SERSI!
POW!

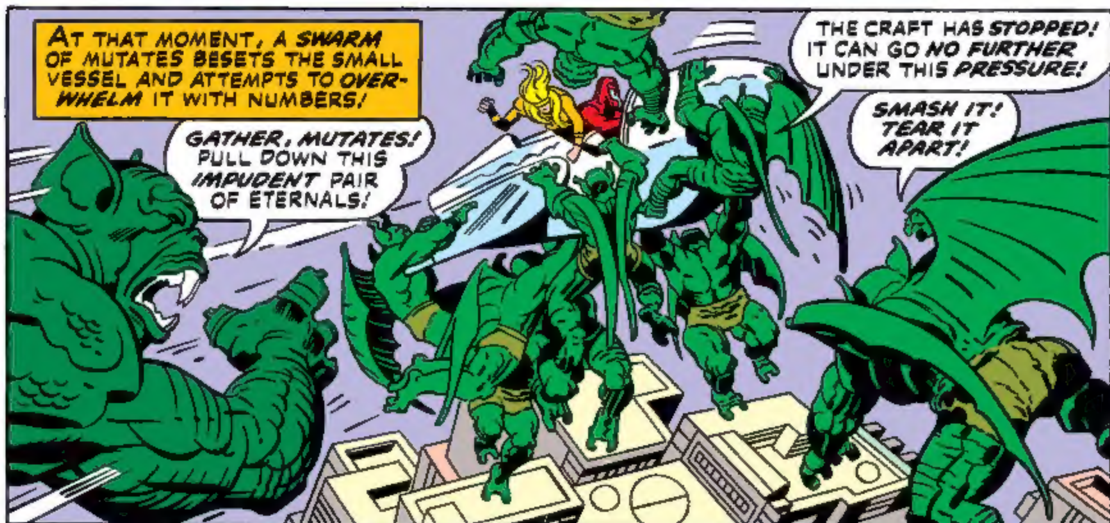

SUDDENLY--!!
I'LL RID YOU OF THAT WEAPON, SHE-WOLF!
PLOK!
KEEP THIS CRAFT STEADY, MAKARRI! WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!!



THENA ACTS WITH THE SPEED OF A POLISHED WARRIOR! SHE AVOIDS A DEATH-BLOW AND CLOSES WITH THE ENEMY!
FLY ALONG THE BUILDINGS, MAKARRI! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS MUTATE MICROBE!
BOASTFUL ETERNAL! RELEASE THAT BAR-- OR I'LL--!



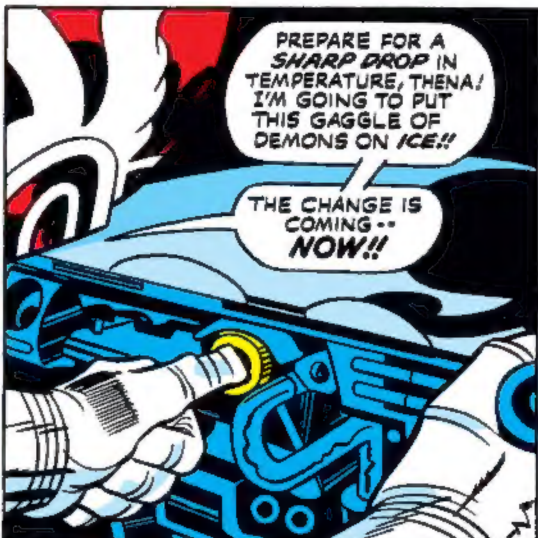
SLAAM!!
DONE LIKE A TRUE DAUGHTER OF ZURAS!! YOU'RE A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT, THENA!



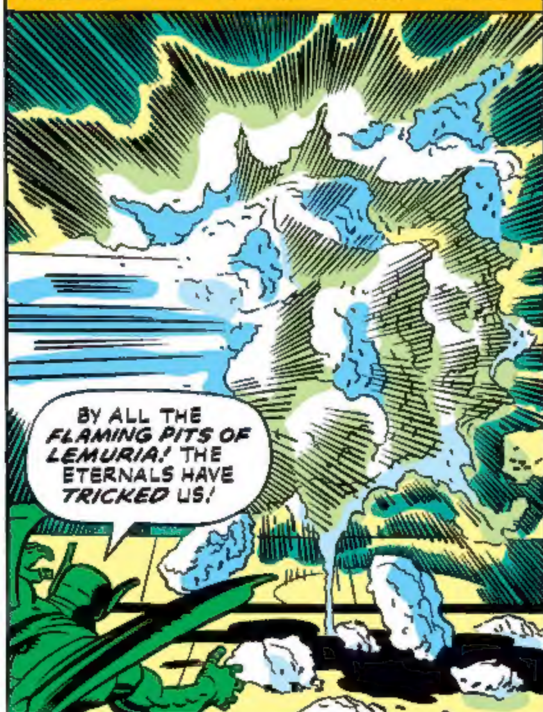
AT THAT MOMENT, A SWARM OF MUTATES BESETS THE SMALL VESSEL AND ATTEMPTS TO OVER-WHELM IT WITH NUMBERS!
GATHER, MUTATES! PULL DOWN THIS IMPUDENT PAIR OF ETERNALS!
THE CRAFT HAS STOPPED! IT CAN GO NO FURTHER UNDER THIS PRESSURE!
SMASH IT! TEAR IT APART!



THE ETERNALS REMAIN COOL IN THIS DESPERATE SITUATION! THENA HOLDS OFF THE ATTACKERS AS MAKARRI WRESTLES WITH THE CRAFT'S CONTROLS...
DO SOMETHING, MAKARRI! BEFORE WE'RE SWAMPED!
I'VE STILL GOT AN ACE CARD!



PREPARE FOR A SHARP DROP IN TEMPERATURE, THENA! I'M GOING TO PUT THIS GAGGLE OF DEMONS ON ICE!!
THE CHANGE IS COMING -- NOW!!

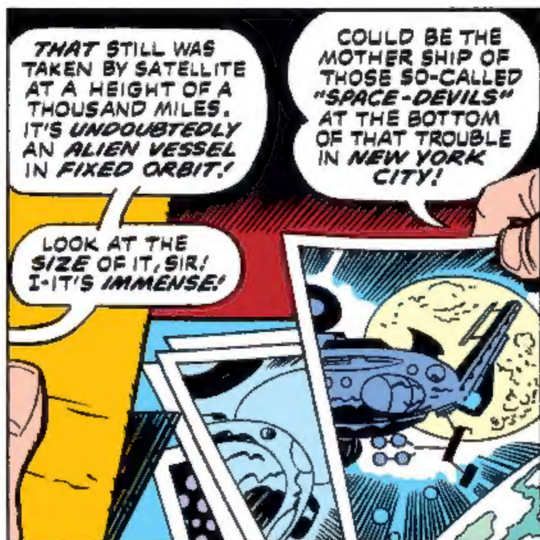

THERE IS A SUDDEN FLASH OF FRIGID BRIGHTNESS! A RUSH OF COLD WIND SWEEPS ACROSS THE WHITE, JAGGED BALL OF FROST WHICH HAS ENGULFED THE CRAFT AND ITS LIVING CARGO...
BY ALL THE FLAMING PITS OF LEMURIA! THE ETERNALS HAVE TRICKED US!

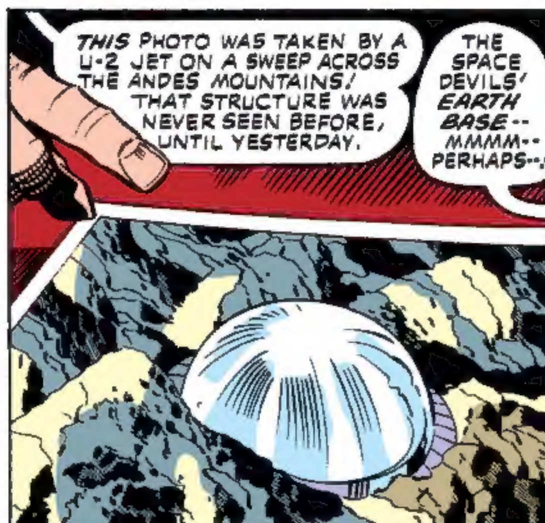

THEN, THE ICE-ENCRUSTED SHAPES OF MUTATES BEGIN TO TUMBLE FROM THE SKY...


THE FROST RECEDES FROM THE SURFACE OF THE CRAFT, AS IT LEAPS ONCE MORE INTO MOTION...
BRRRRRRR!! IT TOOK INTENSE CONCENTRATION TO ENDURE THAT BIT OF WHIMSY!
IT'S NOTHING I'D LIKE TO REPEAT, BUT IT DID GET US FREE OF THOSE UGLY BOORS!


LOOK, MAKARRI! THERE'S SOME SORT OF CONFRONTATION TAKING PLACE IN THAT WIDE STREET--BETWEEN DEVIANTS AND LAW GUARDIANS!!
I-I CAN MAKE OUT THE DEVIANT'S LEADER! YES, IT'S KRO!! I'D KNOW HIM ANYWHERE!
HE'LL GIVE US A FIGHT! BUT, HE CAN ALSO GIVE US THE ANSWERS WE SEEK!!













WHAT THIS ADDS UP TO IS THE MOST EXCITING STORY EVER TOLD IN COMICS!!

DON'T MISS THE NEXT MIND-BOGGLING ISSUE!!

GODS AND MEN AT CITY COLLEGE!